

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01

INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 OES-03 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SZ

SUBJ: FEDERAL COUNCIL STATEMENT ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
BUSINESS WEEK INTERVIEW

REF: BERN 0092; BERN 0145

1. ALTHOUGH PRESS INTEREST IN THE SECRETARY'S BUSINESS
WEEK INTERVIEW REFERENCE TO MILITARY MEASURES IN CASE OF
ECONOMIC STRANGULATION HAS LONG SINCE DIED DOWN, IT WAS
BRIEFLY REVIVED FEBRUARY 13 WHEN FEDERAL COUNCIL ISSUED
STATEMENT ON THE MATTER. IN RESPONSE TO PARLIAMENTARY
INQUIRY, THE FEDERAL COUNCIL DECLARED:

"IT IS THE CONSTANT PRACTICE OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL
TO AVOID TAKING ANY POSITIONS ON ISSUES WHICH DO NOT
CONCERN SWITZERLAND. WHEN THE FEDERAL COUNCIL EXPRESSED
ITS VIEW ABOUT THE INTERVIEW IN QUESTION, IT DID THIS
IN THE BELIEF THAT AS MEMBER OF THE IEA SWITZERLAND
WAS IN DANGER OF BEING DRAGGED INTO A SITUATION THAT
COULD HAVE RAISED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CREDIBILITY OF
SWISS NEUTRALITY. THESE CONSIDERATIONS ALSO CAUSED
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AUSTRIA AND SWEDEN TO HAVE A SIMILAR REACTION".

2. FEDERAL COUNCIL'S STATEMENT MAY BE READ AS A MINIMAL
BACKING FOR FONMIN GRABER'S STATEMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S
-INTERVIEW (REF A) FOR WHICH GRABER WAS SEVERELY CRITICIZED
(REF B).
DAVIS

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Message Attributes

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